

Agenda Item #12.B.7.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833-2945
Phone (916) 263-7800 Fax (916) 263-7859 Web www.bvnpt.ca.gov



DATE: April 25, 2012

TO: Board Members

FROM: Pam Hinckley, R. N., M.S.N.
Nursing Education Consultant

SUBJECT: West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program – Request to Admit Students (Director: Tracey Jensen, Merced, Santa Clara County, Private)

On February 24, 2012, the Board placed West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program on provisional approval¹ for the two-year period from February 24, 2012, through February 28, 2014. Additionally, the Board denied the program's request to admit a day class of 30 full-time students on April 19, 2012, graduating on April 19, 2013, to **replace** a class that graduated November 23, 2011, at that time; **and**, denied the program's request to admit an evening class of 30 full-time students on April 30, 2012, graduating May 31, 2013, to **replace** a class that will graduate on March 28, 2012, at this time.

The program was required to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate for four (4) consecutive quarters by **January 2, 2014**. The program was required to admit no additional students unless approved by the Board. The Board is scheduled to reconsider the program's status at its February 2014 Board meeting.

Those actions were taken due to the program's noncompliance with requirements set forth in Section 2530 (l) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations which states:

"The program shall maintain a yearly average minimum pass rate on the licensure examination that does not fall below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates of accredited vocational nursing schools for the same period.

- (1) Failure to maintain the required yearly average minimum pass rate for two years or eight consecutive quarters may be cause to place a program on provisional accreditation."

¹ Prior to January 1, 2012, references in article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act and article 4 of the Psychiatric Technicians Law provided that the Board accredits all vocational nursing and psychiatric technicians programs. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 2883 and 4532 (Senate Bill 539, Chapter 338, Statutes of 2011), **accredit** was changed to **approve**. There was no change to the Board's authority or jurisdiction.

West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program requests Board approval to admit a class of 30 full-time students on June 4, 2012, graduating June 27, 2013, to **replace** students that graduated on November 23, 2011.

History of Prior Board Actions

- On August 9, 2006, the Executive Officer approved the West Med College, Merced Vocational Nursing Program's request to begin a vocational nursing program with an initial full-time class of 30 students commencing September 25, 2006, **only**; and approved the program curriculum for 1544 hours, including 590 theory, and 954 clinical hours.

The Executive Officer directed that the program director consult weekly with the assigned Nursing Education Consultant and, if necessary, meet at the Board's Sacramento office to prevent non-compliance issues as occurred at the West Med - San Jose Vocational Nursing Program.

- On January 25, 2007, the program notified the Board that West Med College had become an affiliate of National University.
- **On August 6, 2007, a new program director was approved.**
- On August 7, 2007, the program **admitted a class** of 30 students plus three (3) alternates **without prior Board approval**.
- On October 2-3, 2007, the program was inspected to determine compliance with Article 5 of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. Five (5) violations were identified. Those violations were corrected after the visit.
- On November 8, 2007, the Executive Officer approved initial full accreditation for the West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program for the period from October 3, 2007, through October 2, 2011, and issued a certificate accordingly; **and**, approved the program's request to admit a full-time class of 25 students on January 14, 2008 **only**, graduating February 15, 2009
- **On January 11, 2011, a new director was approved.**
- On November 3, 2011, the Executive Officer deferred action on the program's request for continued approval by the Board at its February 24, 2011 meeting. That decision was based on the program's noncompliance with California Code of Regulations Sections 2530(k), 2530 (l), 2527(c) and 2533(f). Additionally, the Executive Officer **denied** the program's request to admit a class of 30 students commencing on November 28, 2011 and graduating December 20, 2012, to **replace** students graduating on November 23, 2011, at this time, **and**,

Approved the program's major curriculum revision as follows:

Decrease overall program hours from 1544 to 1536.

Decrease theory hours from 590 to 576.
Increase clinical hours from 954 to 960, **and,**

The director was required to submit a revised Instructional Plan by November 30, 2011.

- On November 30, 2011, the Board received the program's revised instructional plan
- On January 19, 2012, the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of fifteen (15) copies of pertinent documents, plan, and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire Board members to consider.
- On January 25, 2012, the Board received correspondence from the program director and fifteen (15) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider.
- On February 24, 2012, the Board denied West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a day class of 30 full-time students on April 19, 2012, graduating on April 19, 2013, to **replace** a class that graduated November 23, 2011, at this time; **and,** denied the program's request to admit an evening class of 30 full-time students on April 30, 2012, graduating May 31, 2013, to **replace** a class that will graduate on March 28, 2012, at this time.

The Board also placed West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program on provisional approval for the two-year period from February 24, 2012, through February 28, 2014; **and,**

Required the program to admit no additional students unless approved by the full Board; **and,** required the program to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate by **January 2, 2014.**

The program additionally was required to submit follow-up reports in nine months, but no later than **November 1, 2012**, and 21 months, but no later than **November 1, 2013.** The reports must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken to improve program pass rates, timeline for implementation, and the effect of employed interventions. The following elements must be addressed in the analysis.

- a. Admission Criteria.
- b. Screening and Selection Criteria.
- c. Terminal Objectives.
- d. Curriculum Objectives.
- e. Instructional Plan.
- f. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
- g. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
- h. Textbooks.
- i. Attendance Policy.
- j. Remediation Policy.
- k. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
- l. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.

- m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
- n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
- o. Current Enrollment; **and**,

The program was also required to comply with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professions Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the Board's Regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526; **and**, required the program to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violations. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval; **and** advised the program that failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.

The Board placed the program on the **February 2014** Board agenda for reconsideration of provisional approval.

- On March 19, 2012, the Board forwarded to the program, per certified and regular mail, the Notice of Change in Accreditation Status.
- On March 26, 2012, the Board received the program's signed Acknowledgement of Change in Accreditation Status. The document was signed by the program director on March 26, 2012.
- On April 4, 2012, the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents, plan, and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire Board members to consider.
- On April 16, 2012, the Board received correspondence from the program director and eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire the Board members to consider.

Enrollment

The program offers full – time classes that are 51-weeks in length. The program requires Board approval prior to the admission of each class. The pattern of admissions for proposed classes is seen in the enrollment table below.

The following table represents **past, current and projected** student enrollment based on current and projected class starts and completions. The table indicates a **maximum enrollment of 115 students** during the period **September 2006 through June 2012**.

| ENROLLMENT DATA | | | | |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| CLASS DATES | | #Students Admitted | #Students Current or Completed | Total Enrolled |
| Start | Complete | | | |
| 9/06 | | 30 | 26 | 26 |

| ENROLLMENT DATA | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| CLASS DATES | | #Students Admitted | #Students Current or Completed | Total Enrolled |
| Start | Complete | | | |
| 9/07 (Unapproved) | | 31 | 29 | 26 + 29 = 55 |
| | 10/07 (9/06 Class) | | -26 | 55 - 26 = 29 |
| 3/08 | | 22 | 20 | 29 + 20 = 49 |
| | 9/08 (9/07 Class) | | -29 | 49 - 29 = 20 |
| 10/08 (Unapproved) | | 30 | 29 | 20 + 29 = 49 |
| | 3/09 (3/08 Class) | | -20 | 49 - 20 = 29 |
| 3/09 (Unapproved) | | 25 | 22 | 29 + 22 = 51 |
| 6/09 (Unapproved) | | 29 | 31 | 51 + 31 = 82 |
| | 10/09 (10/08 Class) | | -29 | 82 - 29 = 53 |
| 11/09 (Unapproved) | | 37 | 31 | 53 + 31 = 84 |
| | 3/10 (3/09 Class) | | -22 | 84 - 22 = 62 |
| 4/10 (Unapproved) | | 29 | 28 | 62 + 28 = 90 |
| | 6/10 (6/09 Class) | | -31 | 90 - 31 = 59 |
| 7/10 (Unapproved) | | 33 | 33 | 59 + 33 = 92 |
| | 11/10 (11/09 Class) | | -31 | 92 - 31 = 61 |
| 11/10 (Unapproved) | | 29 | 27 | 61 + 27 = 88 |
| 3/11 (Unapproved) | | 29 | 25 | 88 + 25 = 113 |
| | 4/11 (4/10 Class) | | -28 | 113 - 28 = 85 |
| 7/11 (Unapproved) | | 35 | 30 | 85 + 30 = 115 |
| | 7/11 (7/10 Class) | | -33 | 115 - 33 = 82 |
| | 11/11 (11/10 Class) | | -27 | 82 - 27 = 55 |
| | 3/12 (3/11 Class) | | -25 | 55 - 25 = 30 |
| 6/12 (Day) Proposed | 6/13 | 30 | 30 | 30 + 30 = 60 |
| | 7/12 (7/11 Class) | | -30 | 60 - 30 = 30 |

Licensing Examination Statistics

The following statistics, furnished by the Pearson Vue published by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing as "Jurisdictional Summary of All First-Time Candidates Educated

in Member Board Jurisdiction,” for the period January 2008 through March 2012, specify the pass percentage rates for graduates of the West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical (Vocational) Nurses (NCLEX-PN®).

| NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Data | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------|------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Quarterly Statistics | | | | | Annual Statistics* | |
| Quarter | # Candidates | # Passed | % Passed | State Quarterly Pass Rate | Program Average Annual Pass Rate | State Average Annual Pass Rate |
| Jan-Mar 2008 | 23 | 17 | 74% | 76% | 74% | 76% |
| Apr- Jun 2008 | 1 | 1 | 100% | 75% | 75% | 75% |
| Jul-Sep 2008 | 2 | 2 | 100% | 70% | 77% | 74% |
| Oct – Dec 2008 | 3 | 3 | 100% | 73% | 79% | 73% |
| Jan – Mar 2009 | 21 | 11 | 52% | 70% | 63% | 72% |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | 8 | 5 | 63% | 71% | 62% | 70% |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | 13 | 9 | 69% | 74% | 62% | 72% |
| Oct – Dec 2009 | 3 | 0 | 0% | 76% | 56% | 73% |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | 22 | 15 | 68% | 76% | 63% | 74% |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | 10 | 7 | 70% | 74% | 65% | 75% |
| Jul – Sep 2010 | 25 | 20 | 80% | 76% | 70% | 75% |
| Oct – Dec 2010 | 9 | 4 | 44% | 77% | 70% | 76% |
| Jan – Mar 2011 | 28 | 15 | 54% | 80% | 64% | 77% |
| Apr – Jun 2011 | 9 | 5 | 56% | 71% | 62% | 76% |
| Jul – Sep 2011 | 23 | 10 | 44% | 74% | 49% | 76% |
| Oct – Dec 2011 | 28 | 14 | 50% | 74% | 50% | 75% |
| Jan – Mar 2012 | 10 | 4 | 40% | 77% | 47% | 74% |

The Annual Pass Rate changes every quarter. It is calculated by dividing the number of candidates who passed during the current and previous three-quarters by the number of candidates who tested during the same period. If no data is available for the relevant period, the statistic is carried over from the last quarter for which data is available.

Based on the most current data available (January – March 2012), the program's average annual pass rate is **47%**. The California average annual pass rate for graduates from accredited vocational nursing programs who took the NCLEX-PN® for the first time is 74%. The average annual pass rate for the West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program is **27** percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate.

Faculty and Facilities

Section 2534 (d) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:

"For supervision of clinical experience, there shall be a maximum of 15 students for each instructor."

The current number of Board-approved faculty totals ten (10), including the program director. The director has 80% administrative and 20% teaching duties. Of the total faculty, nine (9) instructors teach clinical.

Based upon a maximum enrollment of 115 students, eight (8) instructors are required for clinical supervision. Therefore, the current number of faculty is adequate for the current enrollment.

Section 2534 (b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations states:

"Schools shall have clinical facilities adequate as to number, type, and variety of patients treated, to provide clinical experience for all students in the areas specified by Section 2533. There must be available for student assignment, an adequate daily census of patients to afford a variety of clinical experiences consistent with competency-based objectives and theory being taught."

The program has clinical facilities that are adequate as to type and variety of patients treated to enable current and proposed students to meet clinical objectives in accordance with Section 2534 (b) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations. This information has been verified by the consultant.

Other Considerations

Over the last five (5) consecutive quarters, the program's quarterly pass rates on the NCLEX-PN® have fluctuated from 40% to 56%; the program's average annual pass rates have fluctuated from 47% to 64%. In ten (10) of the 17 quarters for which data is available for the program, the licensure pass rates are more than ten (10) percentage points below the state average annual pass rate.

On February 24, 2012, the Board placed the program on Provisional Approval meeting for the two – year period from February 24, 2012 through February 28, 2014. That action was taken due to the following violations of the California Code of Regulations.

- The program failed to maintain licensure pass rates within ten (10) percentage points of the state average annual pass rates.
- The program admitted ten (10) classes without prior the required Board approval.
- The program implemented a major of its curriculum without prior Board approval.

At that meeting the program was also **denied** admission of **two (2) replacement classes**.

On March 19, 2012, the Board forwarded per certified and regular mail a Notice of Change in Approval Status (see Attachment A). On March 26, 2012, the Board received the program's signed Acknowledgement of Change in Accreditation Status. The document was signed by the program director on March 26, 2012.

Additionally, the director submitted documentation stating the program has instituted the following interventions in an attempt to bring up their licensure pass rate statistics (see Attachment B):

- Purchased Evolve/HESI Case Studies and practice exams.
- Created a practice testing website for students to focus on a particular topic area and practice comprehensive exams.
- Initiated the use of the HESI exit exam (mandatory).
- Increased the entrance exam score from 17 to 19.
- Plan to revise Admission Criteria to include an interview process for all potential incoming candidates utilizing a rubric to find the best qualified candidates.
- Add new Textbooks
- Revise the instructional plan. Specifically, "combine Pharmacology into nursing class". Increase the use of the Sims lab.
- Added two acute care clinical sites.

The director also indicated the program is considering revising its Screening and Selection Criteria to include a rubric and evaluating current textbooks.

On April 4, 2012, the assigned consultant forwarded correspondence requesting submission of eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents, plans, and subsequent actions taken to correct identified problems that they desire Board members to consider (see Attachment C).

Recommendations:

1. Approve West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program's request to admit a class of 30 full-time students on June 4, 2012, graduating June 27, 2013, to **replace** students that graduated on November 23, 2011.
2. Continue to require the program to admit no additional students unless approved by the full Board.

Rationale: The program's average annual pass rate is 47%. This is 28 percentage points **below** the state average annual pass rate. On February 24, 2012, the Board placed the program on Provisional Approval for the two-year period from February 24, 2012, through February 28, 2014. Since that time, the program has implemented the use of case studies by Evolve/HESI, created a web site for practice testing, revised its exit exam to incorporate the use of a mandatory HESI exit exam, and initiated an interview process with all potential incoming students.

Currently 30 students remain enrolled in classes. These students are expected to graduate July 16, 2012. The admission of a class of 30 students will give the program a total of 60 students for a one-month period of time until the current students graduate in July 2012. Based on this data the class of 30 students is recommended.

Board staff will continue to closely monitor the program's effectiveness by tracking class admissions, the effectiveness of employed interventions, and the program's licensure examination pass rates quarterly, analyzing Annual Reports submitted by the program, and performing accreditation surveys every four (4) years.

- Attachment A: Notice of change in Accreditation Status, Dated March 19, 2012.
- Attachment B: Program Correspondence dated March 19, 2012.
- Attachment C: Board Correspondence dated April 4, 2012.

Agenda Item #12.B.7. Attachment A



BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
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CERTIFIED MAIL

March 19, 2012

Tracey Jensen
Vocational Nursing Director
West Med College, Merced
330 East Yosemite Avenue, Suite 201
Merced, CA 95340

Subject: Notice of Change in Approval Status

Dear Ms. Jensen:

Pursuant to the action of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board) on February 24, 2012, the status of the West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program has been changed from full approval to provisional approval for the two – year period from February 24, 2012 through February 28, 2014. Please sign and return the enclosed "Acknowledgement of Change in Approval Status" form by **Friday, March 30, 2012**.

AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE [VIOLATION(S)]

In accordance with Section 2526.1(c) of title 16 of the California Code of Regulations,

"The Board may place any program on provisional accreditation when that program does not meet all requirements as set forth in this chapter and in Section 2526..."

Section 2530(l) of title 16 of the California Code of Regulations states:

"The program shall maintain a yearly average minimum pass rate on the licensure examination that does not fall below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates of accredited vocational nursing schools for the same period..."

The program pass rates of the West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program for the past sixteen (16) quarters are set forth in the following table.

| NCLEX-PN® Licensure Examination Pass Rates | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Quarter | State Annual Average Pass Rate | Program Annual Average Pass Rate | Variance from State Annual Average Pass Rate |
| Jan – Mar 2008 | 76% | 74% | -2 |
| Apr – Jun 2008 | 75% | 75% | -0 |
| Jul – Sep 2008 | 74% | 77% | +3 |
| Oct – Dec 2008 | 73% | 79% | +6 |
| Jan – Mar 2009 | 72% | 63% | -9 |
| Apr – Jun 2009 | 70% | 62% | -8 |
| Jul – Sep 2009 | 72% | 62% | -10 |
| Oct – Dec 2009 | 73% | 56% | -17 |
| Jan – Mar 2010 | 74% | 63% | -11 |
| Apr – Jun 2010 | 75% | 65% | -10 |
| Jul – Sep 2010 | 75% | 70% | -5 |
| Oct – Dec 2010 | 76% | 70% | -6 |
| Jan – Mar 2011 | 77% | 64% | -13 |
| Apr – Jun 2011 | 76% | 62% | -14 |
| Jul – Sep 2011 | 76% | 49% | -27 |
| Oct – Dec 2011 | 75% | 50% | -25 |

Based on this data, the program failed to meet the average annual pass rate requirement.

REQUIRED CORRECTION(S)

1. Place West Med College, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program on provisional approval for the two-year period from February 24, 2012, through February 28, 2014, and issue a notice to the program to identify specific areas of noncompliance and requirements for correction as referenced in Section 2526.1 (e) of the California Code of Regulations.
2. Require the program to admit no additional students unless approved by the full Board.
3. Require the program to bring its average annual pass rate to no more than ten (10) percentage points below the State average annual pass rate by **January 2, 2014**.
4. Require the program to submit follow-up reports in nine months, but no later than **November 1, 2012**, and 21 months, but no later than **November 1, 2013**. The reports must include a comprehensive analysis of the program, specific actions taken to improve program pass rates, timeline for implementation, and the effect of employed interventions. The following elements must be addressed in the analysis.
 - a. Admission Criteria.
 - b. Screening and Selection Criteria.
 - c. Terminal Objectives.
 - d. Curriculum Objectives.
 - e. Instructional Plan.
 - f. Theory and Clinical Objectives for Each Course.
 - g. Lesson Plans for Each Course.
 - h. Textbooks.
 - i. Attendance Policy.

- j. Remediation Policy.
 - k. Evaluations of Theory and Clinical Faculty.
 - l. Evaluations of Theory Presentations.
 - m. Evaluations of Clinical Rotations and Their Correlation to Theory Presentations.
 - n. Evaluation of Student Achievement.
 - o. Current Enrollment.
- 5. Require the program to comply with all approval standards in Article 4 of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, commencing at Business and Professions Code Section 2880, and Article 5 of the Board's Regulations, commencing at California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2526.
 - 6. Require the program to demonstrate incremental progress in correcting the violations. If the program fails to satisfactorily demonstrate incremental progress, the full Board may revoke the program's approval.
 - 7. Failure to take any of these corrective actions may cause the full Board to revoke the program's approval.

FUTURE BOARD ACTION

Your program will be placed on the **February 2014** Board Meeting agenda for reconsideration of your approval status. The nursing education consultant assigned to your program will ask you to submit documentation of the correction of your violation(s) by the fifteenth day of the second month prior to that Board meeting.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please be advised that, pursuant to the Board's regulations, the program will not be authorized to admit new classes beyond the established pattern of admissions previously approved by the Board. The established pattern of admissions approved by the Board is as follows: **Prior Board approval is required to admit classes.**

In the event your program is required to submit any report(s) as a corrective action pursuant to this notice, such reports are required in addition to any other reports required pursuant to 2527 of the Board's regulations.

The program may no longer advertise that it has full approval, and should take steps to correct any ongoing advertisements or publications in that regard.

A copy of title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 2526.1, regarding provisional approval is attached for your reference. A complete copy of the Board's laws and regulations can be found on the Board's web site at www.bvnpt.ca.gov.

Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Teresa Bello-Jones", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

TERESA BELLO-JONES, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.
Executive Officer

Enclosure

TBJ/ph

cc: Board Members



TITLE 16 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

Section 2526.1

2526.1. Provisional Accreditation.

- (a) Provisional accreditation means a program has not met all requirements as set forth in this chapter and in Chapter 6.5, Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (b) Provisional accreditation shall be granted for a period determined by the Board.
- (c) The Board may place any program on provisional accreditation when that program does not meet all requirements as set forth in this chapter and in Section 2526. If the program has not met all requirements at the end of the initial provisional accreditation period, provisional accreditation may be extended if the program demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Board a good faith effort to correct all deficiencies.
- (d) Any program holding provisional accreditation may not admit "new" classes beyond the established pattern of admissions previously approved by the Board. The admission pattern is defined by the number of students per class and the frequency of admissions for the six class admissions that immediately precede the Board action to consider provisional accreditation.
- (e) A program placed on provisional accreditation shall receive written notification from the Board. The notification to the program shall include specific areas of noncompliance and requirements for correction. A program's failure to correct delineated areas of noncompliance is cause for revocation of provisional accreditation.
- (f) A material misrepresentation of fact by a vocational nursing program in any information submitted to the Board is cause for revocation of provisional accreditation.
- (g) A program whose provisional accreditation has been revoked shall be removed from the Board's list of accredited programs. The status of students as potential applicants for licensure will be determined by the Board.
- (h) A program that is removed from the Board's list of accredited programs subsequent to Board action based on the program's non-compliance with applicable regulations shall not reapply to establish a vocational nursing program for a minimum period of one calendar year.



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Acknowledgement of Change in Approval Status

I, TRACEY JENSEN, director of WEST MED COLLEGE, MERCED, VOCATIONAL
(Director's Name) (Name of Program)

NURSING PROGRAM, hereby acknowledge that this program's status has been changed from full approval to provisional approval. I understand that in accordance with Section 2526.1 (f) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations and Section 2581.1 (f) of the Psychiatric Technician Rules and Regulations, the Board will consider any advertisement of full approval while on provisional approval as "material misrepresentation of fact." "Material misrepresentation of fact" may lead to revocation of the program's approval. Further, I understand the program's provisional approval status will be reflected on the Board's internet website.

Please complete and return this form to the Board by **March 30, 2012**.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

(Signature of Director)

(Date)



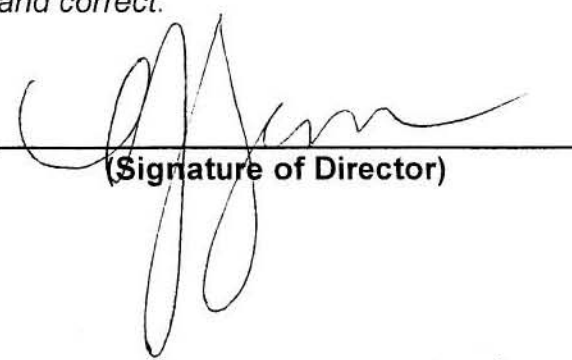
Acknowledgement of Change in Approval Status

I, TRACEY JENSEN, director of WEST MED COLLEGE, MERCED, VOCATIONAL
(Director's Name) (Name of Program)

NURSING PROGRAM, hereby acknowledge that this program's status has been changed from full approval to provisional approval. I understand that in accordance with Section 2526.1 (f) of the Vocational Nursing Rules and Regulations and Section 2581.1 (f) of the Psychiatric Technician Rules and Regulations, the Board will consider any advertisement of full approval while on provisional approval as "material misrepresentation of fact." "Material misrepresentation of fact" may lead to revocation of the program's approval. Further, I understand the program's provisional approval status will be reflected on the Board's internet website.

Please complete and return this form to the Board by **March 30, 2012**.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.


(Signature of Director)

3/26/12
(Date)

Agenda Item #12.B.7. Attachment B

From: Tracey Jensen [tjensen@westmedcollege.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 6:51 PM
To: Hinckley, Pam@DCA
Cc: Mac Powell; Deleta Rowe-Henry
Subject: WestMed Actions and Plans for Improvement

Pam,

These are the things we are doing currently to address the low pass rates and offer an exceptional program.

1. Increase entrance exam score – As you mentioned to me, we should post our expected score in either the catalog or handbook. The score on the Wonderlic was 17 and we want to move it to 19 (**need approval for this change**).
 - a. At the same time, we want to assess the use of the English/Math and Critical Thinking entrance exam from HESI. For the next class, I would administer the exam after the class is selected and use it for comparison and evaluation.
2. Add an interview with the Program Director as part of the selection process. We are developing a rubric for this process which will be submitted with the board materials (**need approval for this change**).
3. Add a few Textbook changes based on student feedback – the list will be finalized and ready for approval in the next two weeks.
4. Instructional Plan: based on student and faculty feedback. **I will submit to you for review and approval in the next 2 weeks.**
 - a. Combine pharmacology into the nursing class
 - i. Currently these are as separate courses in each term. This would not affect the instructional plan but would affect the way in which students receive grades. The pharmacology portion is spread across the curriculum and in the smaller portions has a disproportionate affect on student passing. **This will also have to pass through our other accreditors.**
 - b. Update clinical sites on the instructional plan to include the SimLab.
 - i. Recent feedback from students is overwhelmingly positive for this experience. Currently it serves in a supplemental role instead of a more established rotation.
 - c. Clinical sites now include two acute care hospitals with rotations in Mother/Baby, ER, Med/Surg, and Telemetry.
5. HEIS/Evolve Case Studies and Practice Exams
 - a. Woven throughout the curriculum and matched to major topic areas.
 - b. Case studies cover all aspects of the curriculum and provide students with an opportunity to build on their knowledge.
 - c. Practice exams provide students with several quizzes and exams from which to practice NCLEX style tests. These will become regular assignments to assist students in building their understanding of the material as well as increasing critical thinking skills.
6. HEIS Final Exams and Exit Exam
 - a. For each major topic area, a final exam using the HESI testing products will be administered. This will help to establish consistency across cohorts and provide statistics for addressing areas of deficiency in the curriculum.
 - b. At the conclusion of the program the HESI exit exam will replace the exam developed by the program director. The use of the HESI exam will provide a predictor of success for the NCLEX-PN and be used for determining recommendation to the BVNPT. The passing score is currently 80%. We would like to increase the score to 85% (**need approval for this change**). In addition, students were allowed 4 attempts which would be decreased to 2 attempts (**need approval for this change**).
7. Additional practice questions for student use.

- a. Using the program Classmarker, an additional 600 or more questions are available for students to practice on their own. These can be monitored and used as remediation.
- b. Saunders NCLEX-PN text was added to the regular set of textbooks to be used for remediation and practice with each topic area. Students work on exam questions weekly.

Tracey Jensen, MSN, MMIS, MBA, RN

Dean of Nursing/Director of Education

WestMed College

an Affiliate of National University

330 E. Yosemite Ave, Suite 201

Merced, CA 95340

209.386.6306

Agenda Item #12.B.7. Attachment C



STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMOND G. BROWN, JR.
BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING & PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833-2945
Phone (916) 263-7800 Fax (916) 263-7855 Web www.bvnpt.ca.gov



CERTIFIED MAIL

April 4, 2012

Tracey Jensen
West Med College, Merced
Vocational Nursing Program
330 East Yosemite Avenue, Suite 201
Merced, CA 95340

Re: Request to Admit Students

Dear Ms. Jensen:

The Board is scheduled to consider **West Med, Merced, Vocational Nursing Program's** request to admit students at its meeting scheduled May 11, 2012. That meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites Milpitas – Silicon Valley, in Milpitas, California.

To ensure dissemination and review by individual Board members and relevant staff for timely consideration prior to the February Board meeting, please submit the following written information by **Wednesday, April 11, 2012:**

- Eighteen (18) copies of pertinent documents related to subsequent actions taken by the program to correct identified problems ***that you desire Board members to consider***. Please remember existing statutes require that any document considered by the Board will become a public record. Accordingly, please redact all names of students.
- In addition, please provide information on a compact disc (CD) for Board use. Again, please remember to redact any student names prior to copying information onto the CD.

Although the primary purpose of this letter is to convey the Board's need for the copies, please be assured that, if timely submitted, any correspondence and attachments will be reviewed and, if appropriate, information submitted may be included in the report of the assigned consultant.

The Board strongly recommends that you plan to attend the meeting and be prepared to respond to questions from Board members relative to your program.

Please contact the Board at (916) 263-7843 should further clarification be needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pam Hinckley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

PAM HINCKLEY, RN, MSN

Nursing Education Consultant

Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians

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Sacramento, CA 95833

(916) 263-7843 Phone

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Pam_hinckley@dca.ca.gov